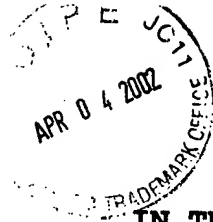


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4/28/02



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: De Keczer et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/393,579 ) Art Unit: 1627  
Date Filed: 09/09/99 ) Examiner: Celsa, B.  
Title: Protecting Groups for )  
Biological Labelling ) Date: 03/27/02  
Atty. Docket No.: BEH-7410 )

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Response and Amendment under §1.116

The Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
BOX AF

Sir:

RESPONSE

In response to the Final Office Action mailed 12/31/01  
for which a response is now due please consider the  
following amendments and remarks which Applicants submit to  
overcome the rejections or present the claims in better form  
for appeal.